THE COMMONWEALTH
OF PENNSYLVANIA
TO MAJOR GENERAL
GALUSHA PENNYPACKER

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THE MEMORIAL

TO

BREVET MAJOR GENERAL

GALUSHA PENNYPACKER

YOUNGEST GENERAL OF UNITED STATES ARMY

LOGAN CIRCLE, PARKWAY

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

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PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

THE PENNYPACKER MEMORIAL COMMISSION
OF PENNSYLVANIA

JUNE, 1934

BUREAU OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
UNIVERSITY, VIRGINIA

General Pennypacker

Foreword

TIME tells. Enduring fame is built upon a more substantial base than the fancy of the moment. So we wait for the passing years to guide us in the erection of memorials to our truly great. It is the infallible test.

In the crucible of Time the life of Galusha Pennypacker was tried. Half a century passed and his glory did not dim. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, his birthplace and his home, in response to strong demand, moved to honor its illustrious son.

In the four years' war to preserve the Union and rout slavery from our national life he performed services and made sacrifices that seem almost superhuman. Wounded seven times in eight months, the distinction of five promotions in one year and the Congressional Medal of Honor could not assuage for one moment the constant agony he endured for nearly fifty-two years.

With body torn and nerves shattered he labored prodigiously in peace to sooth and heal the Nation's wounds and bring again a united country with, North and South, all men kin.

The youngest general on either side in the Civil War, the youngest man ever to be commissioned Colonel and Brigadier General and brevetted Major General in the regular army of the United States, Galusha Pennypacker stands out a conspicuous figure in our national history.

So this Memorial is erected in commemoration of his distinguished military service in behalf of the Union, a brilliant example of courage, self-sacrifice and devotion to country placed before American youth in concrete form as an incentive to honorable ambition and patriotic service.

Pennypacker Memorial

SYMBOLISM OF INSPIRING MEMORIAL TO THE COURAGE AND ATTAINMENTS OF MAJOR GENERAL PENNYPACKER

By Dr. Warren Powers Laird
Member, Pennsylvania State Art Commission

In John Galen Howard's poem, "Pheidias," we are told by that Master Sculptor that

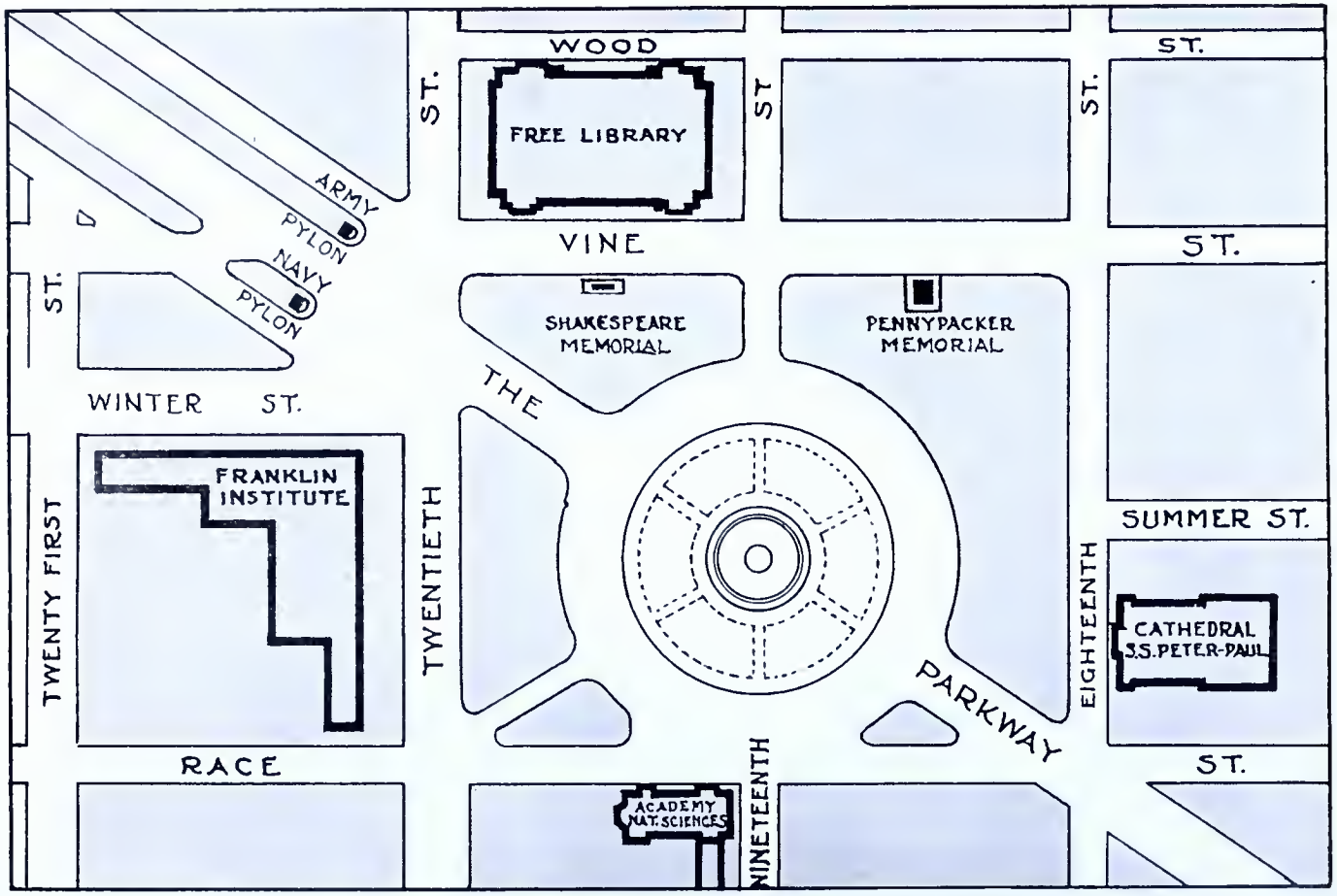
> "*Art's role is, in the last analysis,*
> *Creative, and a superhuman part.*"

Every sculptor, from this Greek master down through the centuries, must have felt the gravity of his task when undertaking the creative act. For here the artist is obliged to tell his story without explanation other than that given by the external aspect of his work.

And yet, such is the potency of this art, that all through the ages its works have been understood and enjoyed by man. May we therefore venture to offer an interpretation of this sculpture before we present its creator to his audience?

If so, let us first look at his problem. A great general of the Civil War is to be commemorated; a man of illustrious military record and no less notable achievement in peace. This forces at the outset a choice between portraiture and symbolism. The latter wisely was chosen, for through it may be typified the *spirit* which animated the man whose memory is to be preserved for posterity. Spirit was his undying attribute.

Therefore, through symbolism, we see portrayed that quality which dominated him throughout his military career, as manifested in a leadership so valiant that it stirred his troops to fearless courage and his fellow citizens to enthusiastic admiration. Thus the sculptured group, with its militant figure upon a conventionalized gun carriage, flanked by tigers, suggests aggressive forward movement under danger, and the sculptor, in adopting this difficult theme, has successfully shown the



Logan Circle, Parkway, showing location of Memorial and Surrounding Places of Interest

irresistible power of utter fearlessness engaged in an advancing action.

This treatment well typifies the gallant behavior of General Pennypacker at Fort Fisher in eighteen sixty-five when he led his brigade to victory in the face of almost certain death. That action brought him the Congressional Medal of Honor and furnished the dramatic climax to a distinguished military career extending through the full period of the Civil War.

But, as we now look upon this symbol of purely military glory, it is well to recall the later, and longer, but equally lustrous chapter of this hero's life when, as a military administrator in the South, during the trying days of Reconstruction, he ruled with such justice and kindliness as to earn the gratitude and affection of his erstwhile enemies.

From the subject of this Memorial let us now turn to the artists who created it, not neglecting to mention as the designer of that essential element, the pedestal, Max A. Bernhardt, architect.

The initial concept of the sculptured group was that of the late, celebrated Philadelphia sculptor, Charles Grafly, whose health forced him to relinquish the work. But, most fortunately, and with his approval, another artist was found, in whose strong and capable hands the project has been amplified in concept and developed through long and arduous study until, today, it stands complete, a superb testimonial, not alone to General Pennypacker, but also to the enthusiasm, patience and talent of its Sculptor, Albert Laessle, of Philadelphia.

This work, then, committed to imperishable bronze, will bear witness to the qualities of a great man, whose heart was ruled by courage and justice. And if we would measure the endurance and efficacy of this testimony let us recall that immortal tribute to the art of sculpture by Theophile Gautier, as translated by Austin Dobson:

"*All passes. Art alone,*
Enduring, stays to us;
The bust outlives the throne,
The coin, Tiberius."

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ORDER OF EXERCISES

"America" - - - - - 108th Field Artillery Band

Exercises called to Order - Dr. Isaac R. Pennypacker
Chairman

Invocation - - - - Rev. Louis Washburn, S.T.D.
Rector of Christ Church, Philadelphia

Presentation of Memorial - Hon. Richard J. Beamish
Secretary of the Commonwealth
Representing the Governor of Pennsylvania

Unveiling of Memorial,
Miss Louise Ramsay Pennypacker

SALUTE
Thirteen Guns

TAPS

Acceptance on behalf of the
City of Philadelphia - Honorable J. Hampton Moore
Mayor of Philadelphia

Music - - - - - - - Medley of Civil War Songs

Address - - Major-General William G. Price, Jr.,
Retired

Presentation of the Sculptor,
Mr. Albert Laessle - - Dr. Warren Powers Laird

Dedicatory Prayer - - Rev. Louis Washburn, S.T.D.
Rector of Christ Church, Philadelphia

"Star Spangled Banner" - 108th Field Artillery Band

DEDICATION OF IMPOSING TRIBUTE IN CITY WHERE WAS BORN UNION PENNYPACKER FOUGHT TO PRESERVE

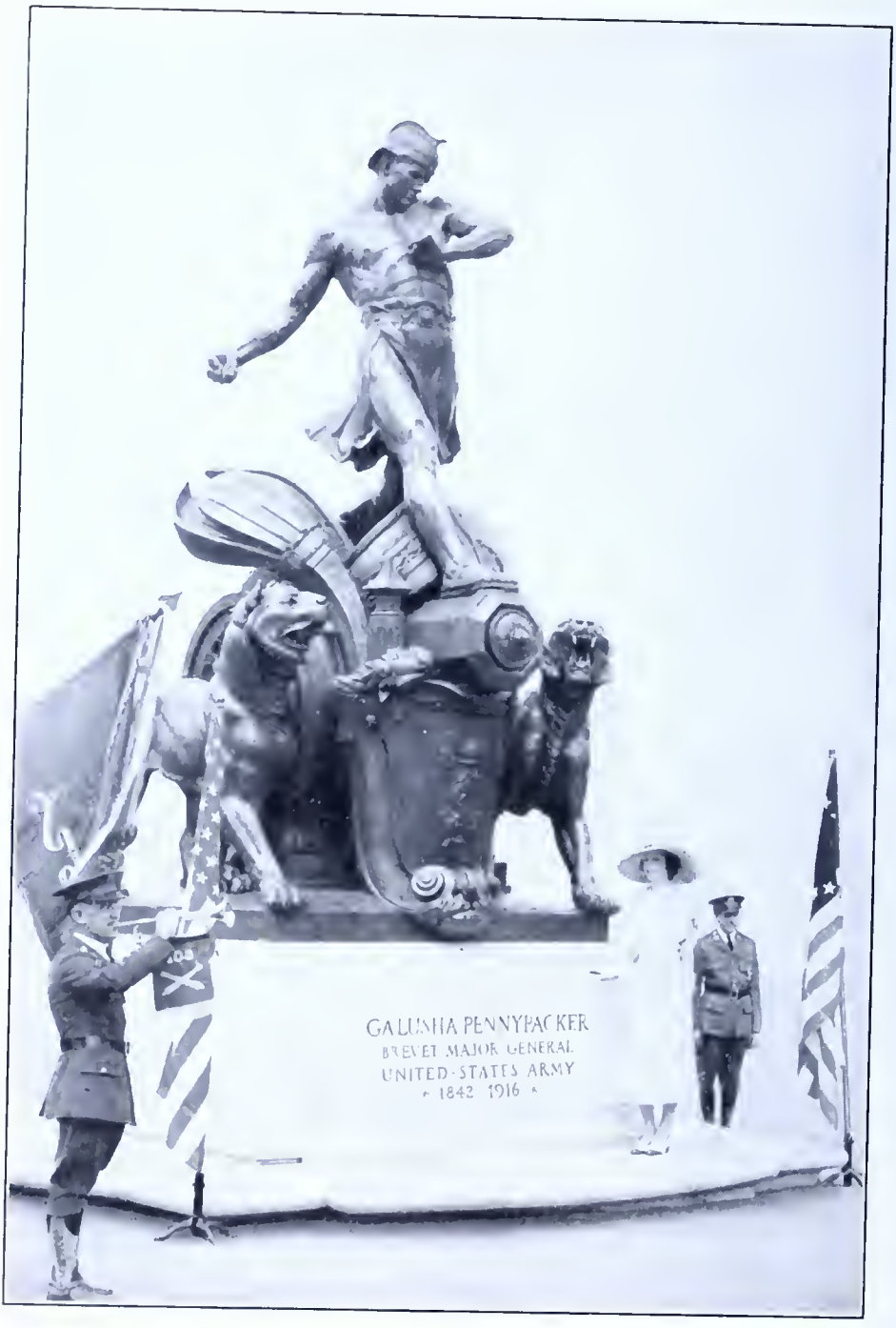
With a blending of cannon and bugle, music and prayer, and leading representatives of war and peace, the General Galusha Pennypacker Memorial, facing Logan Circle, on the Parkway, Philadelphia, was unveiled and dedicated on the afternoon of June 1, 1934, the ninety-second anniversary of the General's birth, in the presence of a gathering of citizens from all parts of the State.

Participating in the ceremony were members of the Pennypacker Memorial Commission, the Pennsylvania State Art Commission, the Art Jury of Philadelphia, the Fairmount Park Art Association, Commissioners of Fairmount Park, the Society of the Cincinnati of Pennsylvania, the Loyal Legion, Dames of the Loyal Legion, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and the G. A. R. Posts of Philadelphia.

After "America," by the 108th Field Artillery Band, the exercises were called to order by Dr. Isaac R. Pennypacker, a cousin of the General, who was chairman of the occasion. Invocation followed by the Rev. Dr. Louis Washburn, Rector of historic Christ Church, Philadelphia, who implored Divine guidance in these uncertain times for the leaders of the Nation which General Pennypacker and thousands of his compatriots made such painful sacrifices to preserve.

The remarks of Dr. Pennypacker, acknowledged the best living authority on Civil War history, dealt with the justification for the various wars in which this country has engaged. He declared that two of them, the War for Independence and the Civil War, had the sanction of just men everywhere.

"This memorial," said he, "would not be warranted if based solely on the brilliant record of the soldier whom it commemorates. . . . No mere soldier of fortune, no



TAPS, AFTER THE UNVEILING

great genius of warfare whose armed hosts trampled upon the rights of a conquered people to serve his nation's cupidity ever, in the last analysis, merits the poet's ode, the musician's symphony or the sculptor's statue. In this soldier of the Union there were combined the glory of the fight, the sacrifice of a half century of suffering from battle wounds, and a war whereof the cause and the outcome have the approval of the just."

Secretary of the Commonwealth Richard J. Beamish, representing the Governor of Pennsylvania, presented the memorial to the City of Philadelphia. He sketched briefly the General's career from boyhood and lauded the courage, the kindliness, the statesmanship and the fortitude of Pennsylvania's distinguished son.

As the Secretary concluded, the memorial was unveiled by Miss Louise Ramsay Pennypacker, granddaughter of Dr. Pennypacker. When the great canvas dropped, revealing the magnificent bronze reflecting the brilliant rays of the summer sun, a field piece of the 108th Artillery burst into a major general's salute, thirteen guns, after which a bugler blew taps while a detail of the regiment, under command of Colonel William A. March, stood at attention.

Mayor J. Hampton Moore accepted the memorial on behalf of the City of Philadelphia, promising to cherish and care for it as an object of art and an incentive to patriotism and good citizenship for the enjoyment and inspiration of all the people. He recalled General Pennypacker, who lived in Philadelphia for thirty-three years, as "a brave man, a fine citizen, and a gallant soldier."

After the band played a medley of Civil War songs, Major General William G. Price, Jr., retired, delivered the address of the day. He gave a detailed account of the military exploits of General Pennypacker and their value to the Union cause, declaring him to be one of the outstanding figures of the Civil War.

Commenting upon the ideals which actuated the men of that period to engage unselfishly in their country's service, he condemned those who, "in ignorance" of the traditions of this nation, "dominate our legislative halls to control both government and business."

Following General Price, Dr. Warren Powers Laird, member of the Pennsylvania State Art Commission, presented the sculptor, Mr. Albert Laessle, who was received with vigorous applause. Dr. Laird explained the symbolism of the memorial. His remarks in full will be found on page seven.

The exercises were concluded with a dedicatory prayer, offered by Dr. Washburn, and the playing of "The Star Spangled Banner" by the 108th Field Artillery Band.

More than fifty members of the Pennypacker connection, which sent 145 men into the Union Army during the Civil War, were present at the unveiling. It is worthy of note that General Pennypacker was one of three of his family to be mentioned for the governorship. His cousin, the late Samuel W. Pennypacker, was subsequently elected to that office.

MISS PENNYPACKER
Who unveiled the memorial

LIFE OF GALUSHA PENNYPACKER NATIONAL HERO AT TWENTY-TWO AMERICA'S YOUNGEST GENERAL

Soldier and statesman, private and general, National hero—all these at the age of twenty-two—Galusha Pennypacker fulfilled the aphorism that truth is stranger than fiction. When barely past his majority, as boy became man, he had lived longer, faster, harder, and had accomplished more than most men four times his age.

No ostentation shadowed his career. His was a life of serious purpose. He thought clearly, felt deeply, acted quickly and with force. Retiring and modest, his beautiful character, his gracious charm, his patience and cheerfulness in constant, acute suffering for more than fifty-one long, agonizing years, make him a pattern the youth of America well may follow.

It was to commemorate these characteristics and present them in concrete form as an incentive to honorable ambition and patriotic service that this Memorial was erected.

Galusha Pennypacker was born June 1, 1842, at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, in a house occupied for a time as headquarters by General Washington, and later used as a hospital during the Revolution. It is now known as the Mansion House, on the State Highway leading from Phoenixville to Valley Forge. He was the only child of Joseph J. and Tamsen Workhizer Pennypacker.

The Pennypackers were large land owners in that vicinity. Galusha's mother, of French-Canadian descent, was a very beautiful woman. From her he inherited his good looks. In later years, grown to manhood, he was generally acknowledged the handsomest officer in the United States Army.

When Galusha was three years old, his mother died. His father, of an adventurous turn, served upon the staff of Major General Worth in the Mexican War as volunteer aide-de-camp. At the close of hostilities he went to California, prospected for gold, edited a newspaper,

and died there, never returning East. Beyond a brief correspondence with his father, after he was old enough to read and write, the boy never knew his parents.

His paternal grandmother, Mrs. Elizabeth F. Pennypacker, took him under her care. To this excellent woman the country owes a debt of deep gratitude, for it was her wise counsel, patient training and loving oversight that built in young Galusha the sterling traits that were to be outstanding in him as a man.

Grandmother Pennypacker and Galusha and a maiden aunt lived on a farm near Phoenixville until Galusha was fourteen. Then the aunt married and Galusha and his grandmother went to live with the boy's uncle, Elijah Pennypacker, on his farm at Corner Stores, near Phoenixville. This relative was a man of highest character, a prominent member of the Religious Society of Friends, and an ardent anti-slavery worker. His farm was a station on the famed Underground Railroad, over which thousands of fugitive slaves found their way to freedom in Canada.

It was under the influence of this environment, an exciting one for a lad of fifteen, that Galusha formed his impressions of slavery which doubtless led to his zeal in helping to drive it from our land.

He lived the healthy, active, out-door life of any farm boy during his early years, attending the best private schools in the neighborhood. He was a good student, a great reader, and an attentive listener.

Although studiously inclined, he was exceedingly popular with the young people, and his elders as well. He was always good company, full of fun, with a strong sense of humor, a compelling smile, and unfailing courtesy and consideration which endeared him to all ages. Persons still living who knew him as a boy comment upon his sunny disposition and his sense of fairness.

When seventeen years of age young Pennypacker went to West Chester, Pennsylvania, to learn the printing trade with the "Chester County Times." He joined the local company of the National Guard and was a high private in the rear rank when President Lincoln, in 1861, called for volunteers after Fort Sumter was fired upon.

The company volunteered for three months. Everyone thought the war would be over by then. It wasn't really started.

Pennypacker was then eighteen. They elected him Lieutenant of the company, but he declined the honor, saying he was too young. When mustered out at the end of three months, he was quartermaster sergeant. Returning to West Chester, he gathered together a company and was elected its Captain. They enlisted August 22, 1861, for three years' service and became Company A, 97th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers.

Immediately the influence of the young captain was felt throughout the regiment. The regimental commander, Colonel H. R. Guss, of West Chester, learned to lean upon him for important details. October 7, 1861, he was promoted to Major. In November, the regiment moved to Fortress Monroe, Virginia, and the month following to Hilton Head, South Carolina.

From then until the close of the war the young soldier saw continuous active service in the field except during the periods when recovering from his wounds. He was wounded in action fourteen times. Several of his wounds were quite serious. He was always in the forefront of his troops. As their leader he led. His command was always "Come," never "Go."

At Green Plains, where two-thirds of his men were killed, he was three times wounded. He arose from a sick bed to lead his regiment in the assault upon Forts Wagner and Gregg. At twenty-two, he was commissioned Colonel. On August 14, 1864, in command of two regiments, he gave support to the Second Corps of Meade's Army. On the 16th at Strawberry Plains, he drove the enemy from its entrenchments, placing a flag within a few feet of a Virginia flag.

He had just turned his twenty-second year when he was placed in command of the largest brigade of the Tenth Corps. He led it at Chapins Bluff, and at Fort Harrison he drove the enemy and captured heavy guns and many prisoners. At Fort Gilmer he led his brigade through a mile of slushing and over a stream. Here he was again wounded.

His corps commander commended him and recommended him for promotion. His army commander conveyed the recommendation to President Lincoln. During all this active service he was detailed many times to special duties. The esteem in which his superior officers held him is shown by his appointment, at the age of twenty-one, as president of a general court-martial. He was also head of an officers' school of instruction.

General Pennypacker's colorful career reached its peak on January 15, 1865, at the assault and capture of Fort Fisher, at the mouth of Cape Fear River, in North Carolina. This was a strong Confederate work of great importance. A report prepared for the United States Senate Committee on Military Affairs, 57th Congress, says:

"General Pennypacker's brigade formed a portion of the expeditionary corps which, under command of Major General Terry, made the successful (and perhaps the most brilliant of the war) assault upon Fort Fisher, North Carolina, January 15, 1865."

Admiral Porter, with sixty warships, joined in the attack from the seaward side. Four hundred heavy guns poured ruin into the stronghold. The land attack was made simultaneously. The small first brigade lost the impetus of its first rush and was barely keeping its foothold upon the west end of the parapet when Pennypacker, having carried the palisades toward the river, the sallyport, and taken four hundred prisoners, wheeled the head of his large second brigade and advanced to support the first. His quick reasoning and prompt action saved the day.

Seeing that only example could carry the men forward, he seized the colors of his old regiment, the 97th Pennsylvania, and calling upon it to follow, he charged up the fifth traverse and planted his flag at the top, the first Union colors to be placed upon the fort.

Just as he thrust the staff into the ground a Minie ball crashed through his right side, fracturing the upper portion of the pelvic bone. He was thought to be dead and a coffin ordered. It was later discovered that a small spark of life still flickered in the brave young body.

It was a grievous wound. Nerves in close attachment with the torn muscles made even momentary relief from pain impossible. He was taken aboard a ship to the hospital at Fortress Monroe, Virginia.

Praise of Pennypacker rang throughout the land. Odes to his courage were composed everywhere. Newspapers were filled with the exploits of the young general. Salutes were ordered fired by every navy yard and by each of the armies in front of Lee. His division commander, General Ames, declared him to be the "hero of Fort Fisher" and Congress voted him the Congressional Medal of Honor. Secretary of War Stanton wrote to President Lincoln citing his services, and, in the name of the President, tendered the thanks of the Nation to the officers and men whose valor and skill carried the fort.

On Secretary Stanton's recommendation he was given the brevet rank of Brigadier General to date from the capture of Fort Fisher, January 15, and on February 18, 1865, he was appointed to the full rank of Brigadier General of Volunteers. He was the youngest officer in all of the Northern or Southern Armies to attain that rank.*

After eleven months in the hospital he proceeded to West Chester, where he was tendered a great reception by the citizens of Chester County. There he had several painful relapses from his wound, necessitating confinement in bed. Feeling incapable of further service, he tendered his resignation, but it was not accepted. At the end of a sixty-day extension of his leave he again resigned. This was accepted with deep regret by the Secretary of War to take effect April 30, 1866.

He entered the office of the Hon. Wayne MacVeagh, in West Chester, as a law student, but was not permitted to remain there. Upon the organization of the regular army President Lincoln appointed him Colonel of the

*Official records of both the Union and Confederate Armies establish clearly that Galusha Pennypacker was the youngest general of the Civil War. He was commissioned Brigadier General at the age of 22 years, 8 months, and 17 days. The youngest Confederate General was John Herbert Kelly, of Alabama, West Pointer, commissioned Brigadier General November 16, 1863, at the age of 23 years, 7 months, and 15 days. He fought at Shiloh, Murfreesboro, Chickamauga and Franklin, Tenn., where he was killed while leading a charge. Ranald Slidell MacKenzie was given command of a brigade in the Union Army at the age of 24. Thomas Muldrop Logan, of South Carolina, was commissioned Brigadier in the Confederate Army at the age of 24 years, 3 months, and 12 days, and Felix Houston Robertson, of Texas, when he was 25.

34th Infantry. He was then twenty-four, the youngest man ever to be commissioned Colonel in the regular army.

He was later transferred to the command of the 16th Infantry, and subsequently was appointed Brigadier General and Brevet Major General in the regular organization.

The peace-time service of General Pennypacker may well be considered of equal, if not greater, value to the Nation than his service in war. The trying days of Reconstruction were fraught with bitterness and rancor which, it seemed, could never be overcome.

As commander of various posts in the South, with headquarters in New Orleans, Louisville, Nashville, San Antonio, and other cities, by his kindness, courtesy, fairness, patience, and withal his outstanding sense of justice, he did more than any other man to allay the hatred of the southern people toward their conquerors. The respect and affection in which he was held by the entire South was a fitting climax to his career as a valiant soldier—a tribute to his far-sighted justice as a statesman.

In 1872, he was sent to Europe to attend the great review of the German Army at the close of the Franco-Prussian War. There he met the German Emperor and Crown Prince, the Emperor of Austria-Hungary, the Czar of Russia, Bismarck, the great German General Von Moltke and many other notables who paid him marked personal attention.

In 1877, he was ordered to take command of Fort Riley, Kansas, and continued in active service in the regular army until 1883, when he was retired on account of his wounds.

Soon after his retirement the General went to Philadelphia and lived at 300 South Tenth Street until his death. His fortitude was amazing. No complaint was ever heard from him during the long years of intense suffering. He patiently awaited his last marching order from the Great Commander. It came on the night of October 1, 1916, when he bled to death from the wound received at Fort Fisher, fifty-one years before. That wound never healed.

By his emphatic stipulation his funeral was conducted in strict accordance with the simple rites of the Religious Society of Friends—this man who might have had a military burial with all the pomp and panoply a grateful government could provide. A plain stone in the National Cemetery at Philadelphia marks the spot where he lies. This Memorial on the Parkway will carry to countless thousands through the years his spirit of valor and patriotism and service to his fellow men.

INCEPTION OF AND AUTHORITY FOR PENNYPACKER MEMORIAL AND DETAILS OF ITS ERECTION

The first suggestion for an adequate memorial to General Pennypacker came from Colonel Frederick A. Tencate, of Phoenixville, a veteran of the Civil War. Grand Army of the Republic posts all over the state immediately took up the idea and sent resolutions to Harrisburg urging that a suitable monument be erected at once. Similar resolutions were adopted by the Sons of Veterans, the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and many other prominent organizations and distinguished citizens of this and other states.

On July 18, 1919, Governor William C. Sproul approved an act passed by the Legislature creating a Commission and making an appropriation for the purpose. The act provided that the Commission should consist of the Governor, the President of the Academy of the Fine Arts in Philadelphia, and three members to be appointed by the Governor.

The first appointees were Colonel H. H. Gilkyson, of Phoenixville; Walter George Smith, of Philadelphia; and Dr. Isaac R. Pennypacker, of Ardmore. These, with John Frederick Lewis, President of the Academy of the Fine Arts, and Governor Sproul, made up the original Commission.

A subsequent act of the Legislature substituted the Secretary of Property and Supplies for the Governor. Vacancies caused by death or resignation were at various times filled by the appointment of the following: Hon. Hampton L. Carson, Philadelphia; Thomas L. Montgomery, Philadelphia; Ralph Beaver Strassberger, Norristown; Colonel E. S. Moser, Collegeville; Harry J. W. Kiessling, Williamsport.

Alfred G. B. Steel, of Philadelphia, when he became President of the Academy of Fine Arts, under the act took his place on the Commission and was chosen its

chairman. The other members at the conclusion of its work are Honorable John L. Hanna, Secretary of Property and Supplies, Colonel Moser and Mr. Kiessling.

The initial appropriation to start the work was $15,000.00. Subsequent appropriations of $35,000.00 were made, a total of $50,000.00 authorized by the state. Of this amount, $8,500.00 has been returned to the State Treasury.

When it was decided to place the Memorial on the Parkway, the Commissioners of Fairmount Park asked leave to contribute $20,000.00 toward its further embellishment. This brought the total cost up to $61,500.00.

The late Charles Grafly, famous Philadelphia sculptor, was retained to design and execute the Memorial, but ill health compelled him to relinquish the work and the task, with Mr. Grafly's approval, was passed to Albert Laessle, of Philadelphia, a sculptor of international note, who amplified and developed the conception to its completion.

The bronze, fifteen feet six inches high and seven feet six inches square, was cast by the Roman Bronze Works, Long Island, New York.

Throughout the latter years of the Commission's activity, including inspection and approval of the work and arranging the dedicatory exercises, all details were under the direction of William N. Ludwig, Administrative Officer of the Pennsylvania State Art Commission.